GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3968
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2002
COIR AND RUBBER AS AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS
VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any memorandum from the State of Kerala inthe matter of deciding coir and rubber as an agriculture commodity under W.T.O. agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. The Government has been receiving memoranda and representations fromthe State Government of Kerala, various Members of Parliament and Planters` Associations fromtime to time for including rubber and coir under the scope of the Agreement on Agriculture (AoA) of the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

(c): The Government has already filed its negotiating proposals with the WTO for includingrubber and coir in the rationalization of product coverage in the AoA. The negotiations are scheduled to conclude by 1 January 2005.